

2023 -- H 5700

LC001931

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- TRESPASS AND VANDALISM

Introduced By: Representative Terri-Denise Cortvriend

Date Introduced: February 17, 2023

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-44-24 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-44 entitled "Trespass  
2 and Vandalism" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **11-44-24. Blocking or obstructing public rights-of-way to water.**

4 Every person who shall obstruct or block or cause any obstruction of any public rights-of-  
5 way to water areas of the state shall be imprisoned not exceeding one year or be fined not exceeding  
6 five hundred dollars (\$500). For the purposes of this section, an obstruction can include signage  
7 that deters the public from using a public right-of-way. An obstruction based on signage alone shall  
8 be subject to a civil penalty not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500).

9 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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1           This act would define an obstruction to a public right-of-way to include signage that deters  
2 the public from using a public right-of-way and subject such violation to a fine not to exceed five  
3 hundred dollars (\$500).

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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